

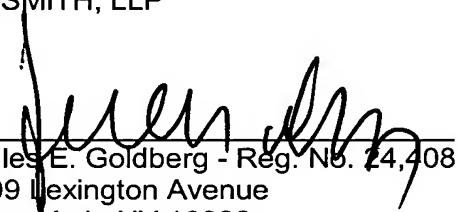
REMARKS

As a result of the foregoing amendment, Claims 26 and 27 have been cancelled and claim 14 has been amended to include the recitations thereof. Claim 16 has also been amended to conform to the amendment to claim 14 and indicate that the washing and drying are carried out prior to the heating or exposure to radiation.

The examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 26 and 27 is appreciatively acknowledged. Inasmuch as the broadest claim in the case, claim 14, has been amended to include the recitations of these allowable claims, and all of the remaining claims are dependent thereon, it is clear that there is no longer any outstanding rejection on the art and accordingly it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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14. (amended) A method of fixing an oligonucleotide or a polynucleotide to a solid carrier which comprises the steps of spotting an aqueous solution containing the oligonucleotide or the polynucleotide and a hydrophilic polymer onto the solid carrier and heating or exposing to radiation the carrier resulting from the spotting step.--

16.(amended) The method of Claim 14, which further comprises the steps of washing the carrier resulting from the spotting step and drying the carrier resulting from the washing step prior to heating or exposing the carrier to radiation.